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To:	FROM:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents	Peter D. McDermott
Attn: Examiner Nguyen	
COMPANY:	DATE:
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	February 22, 2001
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YOUR REFERENCE No.:	OUR REFERENCE (C/M) No.:
	3259.80972

RE:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/447,030, Filed 22 November 1999

Applicant: Forbert et al.

Title: Method for Producing Substantially Globular Lyogels and Aerogels

If you do not receive all page(s) or have any problems receiving this transmission, please call:

NAME: Andrea MacVarish PHONE: 617-227-7111

COMMENTS:

Dear Examiner Nguyen:

Thank you for your telephone interview on February 20, 2001 regarding the above-captioned patent application. In response to that telephone interview, applicant files herewith in the above-captioned patent application the following:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

**Peter D. McDermott
Reg. No. 29,411**

AE97/151US

PATENT

2-22-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(3259.84946)

Applicant: Forbert et al. Paper No:

Application No.: 09/447,030 Group Art Unit:

Filed: 22 November 1999 Examiner: Nguyen

Title: Method for Producing Substantially Globular Lyogels and Aerogels

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

In the Specification

On page 9, line 1 delete "The following statement presents various aspects and features of the present invention:" and insert in place thereof -- Patent claims --.